

The Worship and the War Revelation 12:10-17

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Major Themes

- ▶ The epic tale of good versus evil
- ▶ The dominion, protection, and victory of the church
- ▶ The false dominion and authority, and defeat of satan
- ▶ War between satan and the people of God

Major Themes

- ▶ The One true God rules the universe with unequalled power and authority and sovereignty while the forces of evil continually make feeble attempts at defeating the sovereign God.

Major Themes

- ▶ Evil focuses on the creation of God for that is where a measure of success is attained; leading people away from the God of salvation by gods of deception

Outline of Chapter 12

- ▶ Two themes - God's people and satan's war
- ▶ God's people
 - vs. 1-2
 - vs. 5-6
 - vs. 10-12
 - v. 14
 - v. 16
- satan's war
 - vs. 3-4
 - vs. 7-9
 - v. 13
 - v.15
 - v. 17

Events of Chapter 12

- ▶ Question: When do these events take place?

Events of Chapter 12

► Answer:

1. In the primordial past after creation
- satan tries to be like God and take over the throne
Isa 14:12; 1 Tim 3:6
► satan is cast down to earth and enters the snake - see Gen 3:1ff

Events of Chapter 12

- Satan continues to present himself before God
► Job 1:6; Zech 3:1-2
- satan accuses the saints before God
► Rev 12:10

Events of Chapter 12

- satan is still referred to as the prince of the power of the air - Eph 2:2
- Being cast out of heaven is only a partial fulfillment of the complete and final victory over satan

Events of Chapter 12

2. The life and death of Jesus

- ▶ The birth of Jesus
- ▶ Overcoming temptation - sinlessness
- ▶ Casting out demons

Events of Chapter 12

2. The life and death of Jesus

- ▶ Death and resurrection
 - ▶ Col 2:14-15; Heb 2:14-15
- ▶ We have another partial fulfillment of the defeat of satan

Events of Chapter 12

3. The final battle in the Great Tribulation

- ▶ He makes war against the saints during the great tribulation - v. 9-17
- ▶ The Millennial kingdom - 20:1-3

Events of Chapter 12

3. The final battle in the Great Tribulation

- ▶ The final battle and judgement upon satan
 - ▶ 20:7-10
- ▶ This, then, is the final fulfillment of the defeat of satan

The Worship - vs 10 - 12

1. A result of the judgement and banishment of satan from the heavenly realms
2. In response from those who overcame satan during the course of their life on earth

The Worship - vs 10 - 12

NOTE! There is still a “Woe” that satan is not finally defeated and will concentrate his efforts of attack upon those during the Great Tribulation

The War

1. Satan is hurled to the earth and pursues the woman - those who by faith are followers of God
2. The woman is given wings of an eagle
 - ▶ Ex 19:3-6; Deut 32:9-12; Isa 40:28-31

The War

3. Goes to a place in the desert; again a place of refuge and safety and nourishment - v 6
4. Taken care of for a time, times, and half a time
 - ▶ See Dan 7:25; 12:7

The War

5. Serpent spewed water from its mouth - to send a flood. The theme of the great sea monster Leviathan who desires to destroy and cause chaos and darkness and destruction

The War

6. The earth swallowed up the water
 - ▶ Creation is controlled by God and used for His purposes, not satan's
 - ▶ See Korah's rebellion - Num 16:28-34;
Deut 11: 5-7; Ps 106:16-18
 - ▶ Also the song of Moses - Ex 15:11-12

The War

7. The dragon goes and makes war against the rest of her offspring
 - ▶ The church down through the ages
 - ▶ Those who follow Jesus in the Great Tribulation, perhaps even the last 3 ½ years of the Great Tribulation

Conclusion/Summary

1. Satan is at war with the world and the church - with you and me!
2. We should not expect tranquility and peace in our lives, there will be suffering
3. Followers of Jesus are objects of satan's wrath but followers of the world and satan are objects of God's wrath

Conclusion/Summary

4. Satan knows of his defeat and is trying to destroy and deceive as many people as possible, including Christ followers
5. God is protecting His people from spiritual defeat
6. Jesus has already gained the victory and has defeated satan

Conclusion/Summary

7. Satan's final defeat is coming
8. Martyrdom and death is a victory over satan
9. We need to be aware of this war (Eph 6:12) and that much of what happens to us is not by accident. Some of it is satan's attempts to destroy our faith in Christ (1 Pet 5:8-10)
10. Remember that satan is already defeated!
